

Chairman Reed Hundt
April 29, 1996

page two

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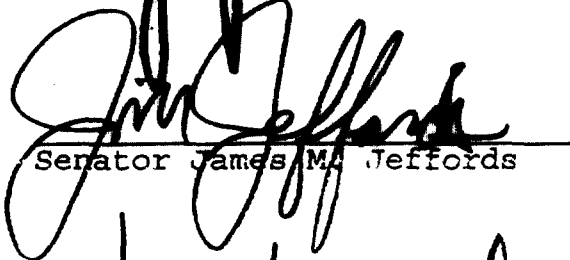
Sincerely,



Senator Olympia Snowe



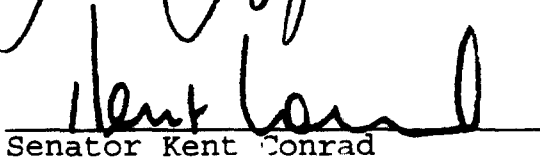
Senator Jay Rockefeller



Senator James M. Jeffords



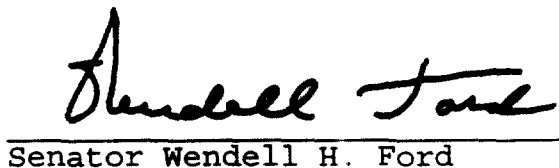
Senator Robert Kerrey



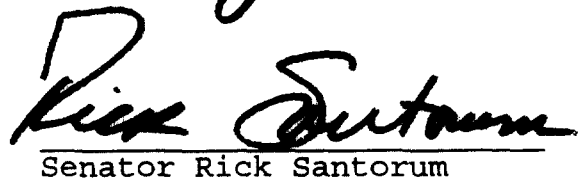
Senator Kent Conrad



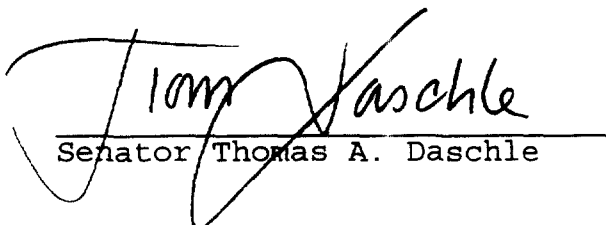
Senator Larry Pressler



Senator Wendell H. Ford



Senator Rick Santorum




Senator Thomas A. Daschle



Senator Carol Moseley-Braun

Chairman Reed Hundt
April 29, 1996


page three



Senator Conrad Burns



Senator Jeff Bingaman



Senator Joseph I. Lieberman



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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

June 12, 1996

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

The Honorable Robert Kerrey
United States Senate
303 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D. C. 20510-2704

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

Dear Senator Kerrey:

Thank you for your letter of April 29, 1996, regarding implementation of Section 254(h) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996. The new Section 254(h) establishes universal service support for schools, libraries and health care providers. The Senate Education Technology Working Group's endorsement of Section 254(h) significantly furthers our efforts to properly implement the provision.

We are intensely working with the states on a Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service to implement this section of the Act. On April 12, 1996, we held a meeting of the Joint Board and heard from representatives of government, education and library groups, who presented their views on how telecommunications technology can improve the quality of education in the United States. Speakers from the field of telemedicine also made presentations on how the Act can be implemented to further the deployment of telecommunications services for health care providers that operate in rural areas.

A copy of your letter has been included in the record of the universal service proceeding (CC Docket No. 96-45). Your recommendations and views will be carefully considered by the Joint Board.

We appreciate your continued interest in these important issues.

Sincerely yours,

Reed E. Hundt
Chairman

*Many thanks for your friendship
& leadership*

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United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

April 29, 1996

The Honorable Reed Hundt
Chairman
The Federal Communication Commission
1919 M Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20554

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MAY 2 1996

LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS
OLA

Re: Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service
(CC Docket No. 96-45)

Dear Mr. Chairman,

As members of the bipartisan Senate Education Technology Working Group, we are writing to urge you and members of the Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service to act swiftly to fully implement Section 254(h) of the Telecommunications Competition and Deregulations Act of 1996, known as the Snowe-Rockefeller-Exon-Kerrey provision. This provision is intended to ensure that schools, libraries, and rural health care facilities get affordable telecommunications rates necessary to gain access to the information superhighway.

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April 29, 1996

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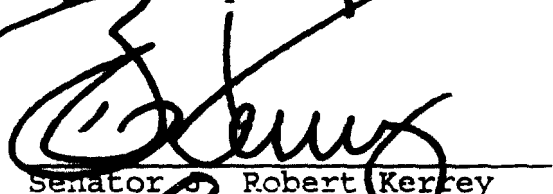
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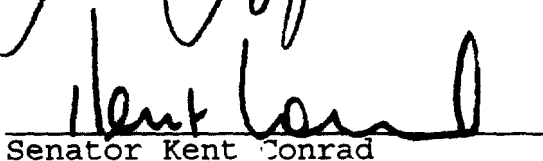
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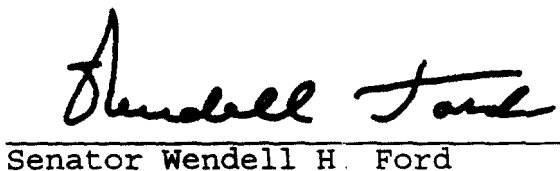

Senator Jay Rockefeller

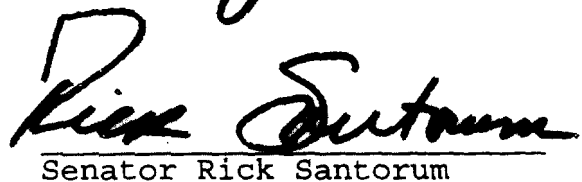

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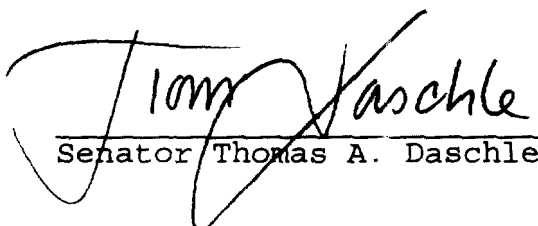

Senator Robert Kerrey


Senator Kent Conrad


Senator Larry Pressler


Senator Wendell H. Ford



Senator Rick Santorum


Senator Thomas A. Daschle


Senator Carol Moseley-Braun

Chairman Reed Hundt
April 29, 1996


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Senator Conrad Burns



Senator Jeff Bingaman



Senator Joseph I. Lieberman



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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

WASHINGTON

June 12, 1996

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

The Honorable Larry Pressler
Chairman
Subcommittee on Communications
Committee on Commerce, Science
and Transportation
United States Senate
227 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

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Chairman

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United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

April 29, 1996

The Honorable Reed Hundt
Chairman
The Federal Communication Commission
1919 M Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20554

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LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS
OLA

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(CC Docket No. 96-45)

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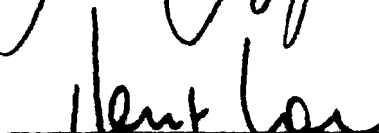
Sincerely,



Senator Olympia Snowe



Senator Jay Rockefeller



Senator James M. Jeffords

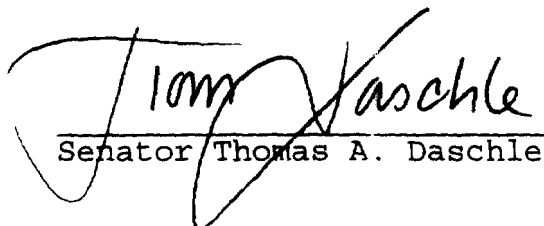

Senator Robert Kerrey

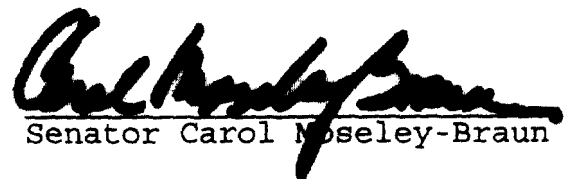

Senator Kent Conrad


Senator Larry Pressler


Senator Wendell H. Ford

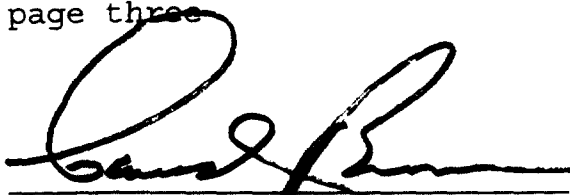

Senator Rick Santorum


Senator Thomas A. Daschle


Senator Carol Moseley-Braun

Chairman Reed Hundt
April 29, 1996


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Senator Conrad Burns



Senator Jeff Bingaman



Senator Joseph I. Lieberman



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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

The Honorable Rick Santorum
United States Senate
120 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

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Reed E. Hundt
Chairman

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United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

April 29, 1996

The Honorable Reed Hundt
Chairman
The Federal Communication Commission
1919 M Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20554

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LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS
OLA

Re: Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service
(CC Docket No. 96-45)

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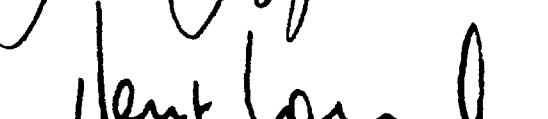
Sincerely,


Senator Olympia Snowe



Senator Jay Rockefeller



Senator James M. Jeffords

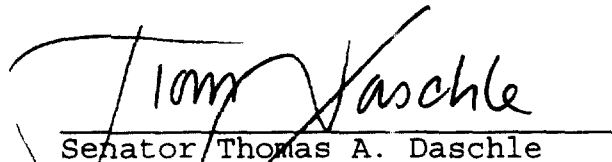

Senator Robert Kerrey



Senator Kent Conrad


Senator Larry Pressler


Senator Wendell H. Ford

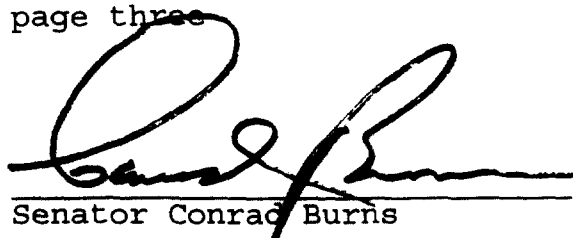

Senator Rick Santorum


Senator Thomas A. Daschle


Senator Carol Moseley-Braun

Chairman Reed Hundt
April 29, 1996

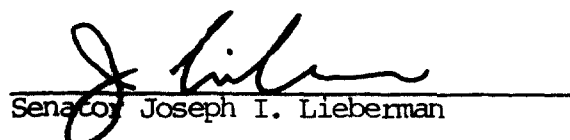
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Senator Conrad Burns



Senator Jeff Bingaman



Senator Joseph I. Lieberman



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WASHINGTON

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

The Honorable Carol Moseley-Braun
United States Senate
320 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510-1303

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

Dear Senator Moseley-Braun:

Thank you for your letter of April 29, 1996, regarding implementation of Section 254(h) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996. The new Section 254(h) establishes universal service support for schools, libraries and health care providers. The Senate Education Technology Working Group's endorsement of Section 254(h) significantly furthers our efforts to properly implement the provision.

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WASHINGTON, DC 20510

April 29, 1996

The Honorable Reed Hundt
Chairman
The Federal Communication Commission
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Washington, DC 20554

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Re: Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service
(CC Docket No. 96-45)

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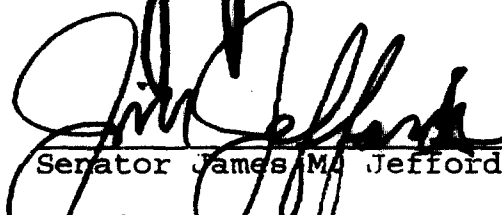
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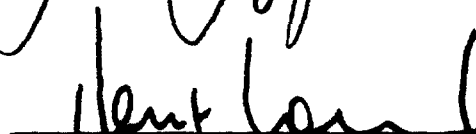
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Senator Jay Rockefeller



Senator James M. Jeffords

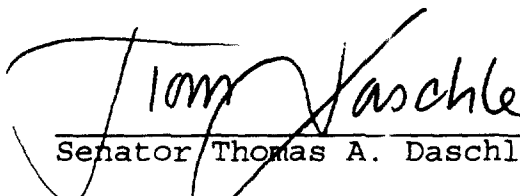

Senator Robert Kerrey


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Senator Larry Pressler


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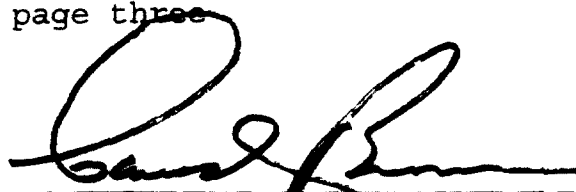

Senator Rick Santorum


Senator Thomas A. Daschle


Senator Carol Moseley-Braun

Chairman Reed Hundt
April 29, 1996


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Senator Conrad Burns



Senator Jeff Bingaman



Senator Joseph I. Lieberman



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WASHINGTON

June 12, 1996

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

The Honorable Conrad Burns
United States Senate
183 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510-2603

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

Dear Senator Burns:

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United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

April 29, 1996

The Honorable Reed Hundt
Chairman
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1919 M Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20554

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LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS
OLA

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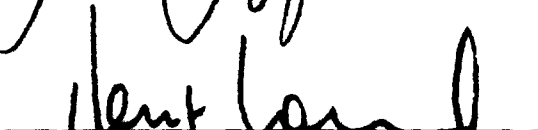
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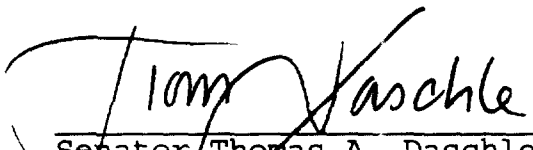

Senator Robert Kerrey



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Senator Larry Pressler


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Senator Carol Moseley-Braun

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The Honorable Joseph Lieberman
United States Senate
316 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510-0703

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

Dear Senator Lieberman:

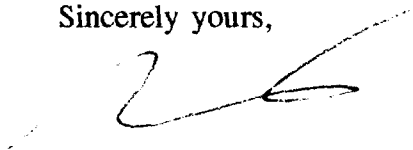
Thank you for your letter of April 29, 1996, regarding implementation of Section 254(h) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996. The new Section 254(h) establishes universal service support for schools, libraries and health care providers. The Senate Education Technology Working Group's endorsement of Section 254(h) significantly furthers our efforts to properly implement the provision.

We are intensely working with the states on a Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service to implement this section of the Act. On April 12, 1996, we held a meeting of the Joint Board and heard from representatives of government, education and library groups, who presented their views on how telecommunications technology can improve the quality of education in the United States. Speakers from the field of telemedicine also made presentations on how the Act can be implemented to further the deployment of telecommunications services for health care providers that operate in rural areas.

A copy of your letter has been included in the record of the universal service proceeding (CC Docket No. 96-45). Your recommendations and views will be carefully considered by the Joint Board.

We appreciate your continued interest in these important issues.

Sincerely yours,


Reed E. Hundt
Chairman

Just a great letter, thank you
Just R

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United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

April 29, 1996

The Honorable Reed Hundt
Chairman
The Federal Communication Commission
1919 M Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20554

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LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS
OLA

Re: Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service
(CC Docket No. 96-45)

Dear Mr. Chairman,

As members of the bipartisan Senate Education Technology Working Group, we are writing to urge you and members of the Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service to act swiftly to fully implement Section 254(h) of the Telecommunications Competition and Deregulations Act of 1996, known as the Snowe-Rockefeller-Exon-Kerrey provision. This provision is intended to ensure that schools, libraries, and rural health care facilities get affordable telecommunications rates necessary to gain access to the information superhighway.

This provision received strong bipartisan support in the U.S. Senate, and we endorse its fundamental goals. It will be essential for schools and libraries to be part of the information superhighway so that all children and adults will have access to crucial emerging technology. We should not let a two-tier education system develop in which wealthier school districts train students on advanced telecommunications but rural areas and poorer school districts are left out. Libraries offer a basic, important link to the information superhighway for all adults, regardless of income.

Implementation of the Snowe-Rockefeller-Exon-Kerrey provision will require creative efforts and consistent oversight to ensure that the provision meets the needs of schools and libraries. It is also essential for definitions of special services and advanced service to be allowed to evolve to include changes and improvements in technology.

Also, we believe that it is vital for the Joint Board to carefully review the special challenges and needs of rural schools and libraries and take action to ensure that the discount provided makes access for these community users truly affordable. The provision was specifically based on the universal service concept to ensure that discounts are directed to individual schools and libraries and it will be

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Chairman Reed Hundt
April 29, 1996

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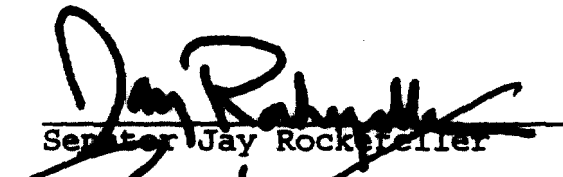
essential to ensure that rural schools and libraries get the special help they need and deserve to overcome the obstacles of providing telecommunication services in rural areas. To fulfill the intent of the law, every school and library submitting a bona fide request deserves a real discount that ensures classrooms and libraries access to the information superhighway.

We look forward to working with you to promote education technology in creative, exciting ways.

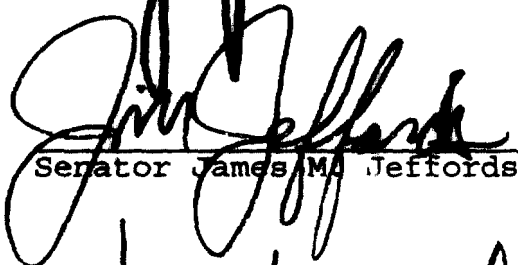
Sincerely,



Senator Olympia Snowe



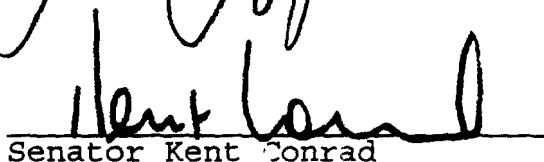
Senator Jay Rockefeller



Senator James M. Jeffords



Senator Robert Kerrey



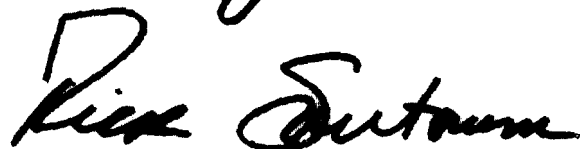
Senator Kent Conrad



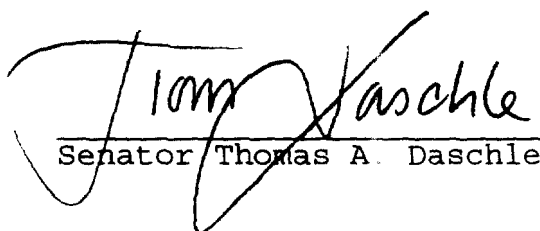
Senator Larry Pressler



Senator Wendell H. Ford



Senator Rick Santorum



Senator Thomas A. Daschle



Senator Carol Moseley-Braun